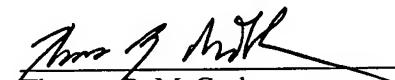


REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests examination of the national stage filing of the PCT application enclosed herewith. Applicant further respectfully requests that the above amendment be entered into said application.

Respectfully submitted



Thomas B. McGurk
Registration No. 44,920
James F. Vaughan
Registration No. 31,889

WOMBLE CARLYLE SANDRIDGE & RICE

P. O. Box 7037
Atlanta, Georgia 30357-0037
(404) 872-7000 (Telephone)
(404) 888-7490 (Facsimile)

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James F. Vaughan

Signature

*Version with Markings to Show Changes Made*IN THE SPECIFICATION

After the title insert the following:

This application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119(b) to German Application Serial No. 19948406.6, filed on October 6, 1999 and PCT Application Serial No. PCT/EP00/09830, filed on October 6, 2000 under 35 U.S.C. §363.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-12 as follows.

1. (Amended) An [E]lectrically conductive floor covering based on linoleum, comprising a wear layer [(2)], a lower layer [level (3)], and a backing [(4)], [with] wherein the wear layer [(2) comprising] comprises 0.1% to 5% by weight carbon black [and/]or 0.1% to 8% by weight metal powder in relation to the total weight of the wear layer [(2)] or a combination thereof, [with] wherein the lower layer [(3)containing as] contains at least one electrically conductive filler material, wherein the electrically conductive filler material includes 1% to 20% by weight carbon black [and/]or 1.5% to 40% metal powder in relation to the conductive mixed mass or a combination thereof, [with] and wherein the floor covering [having] has a contact resistance R_1 per EN 1081 (April 1998) of a maximum of $10^7 \Omega$.
2. (Amended) The [F]floor covering according to Claim 1, [with] wherein the lower layer [(3) having] has a thickness of 0.6 mm to 1.4 mm.

3. (Amended) The [F]floor covering according to Claim 1 [or 2], [with] wherein the wear layer [(2) comprising] comprises a chemical additive for increasing conductivity.

4.(Amended) The [F]floor covering according to Claim 3, [with] wherein the chemical additive [being] is selected from [morpholin and/or at least a derivative] derivatives of imidazol, imidazolin, [or] benzimidazol [or a mixture], morpholin and mixtures thereof.

5.(Amended) The [F]floor covering according to [one of the preceding claims] Claim 1, [with] wherein the wear layer [(2) having] has a bright color.

6. (Amended) The [F]floor covering according to [one of the preceding claims] Claim 1, [with] wherein the wear layer [(2) as such having] has a multicolor pattern.

7. (Amended) The [F]floor covering according to [one of the preceding claims] Claim 1, [with] wherein the wear layer [(2) having] has a thickness of 1.4 mm to 3.6 mm.

8.(Amended) The [F]floor covering according to [one of the preceding claims] Claim 1, [with] further including an electrically conductive web [(5) being] arranged on the side of the backing [(4)] facing away from the lower layer [(3)].

9.(Amended) The [F]floor covering according to Claim 8, [with] wherein the electrically conductive web [(5) comprising] comprises an electrically conductive filler material.

10.(Amended) A [M]method for producing a floor covering based on linoleum according to

[one of] Claim[s] 1 [through 9] comprising

[-] [the application of] applying the lower layer [(3)] onto the backing [(4)]; and

[-] [the] forming [of] the wear layer [(2)] on the lower layer [(3)].

11.(Amended) The [M]method according to Claim 10, further including applying a [with at

least one] back coating in the form of an electrically conductive web [(5) being

applied] to the back side of the floor covering.

12.(Amended) The [M]method according to Claim 11, [with] wherein the [web-like] back

coating [(5) being] is applied through a press process.